

Message Text

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62

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CPR-01 SS-15 PRS-01 USIA-06 /032 W

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R 291708Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY LOME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1197

C O N F I D E N T I A L L O M E 2198

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP

SUBJECT: ARRIVAL OF AMBASSADOR PALMER

REF: STATE 238702

1. MFA ACTING CHIEF OF PROTOCOL SAYS ARRIVAL STATEMENT IS NOT CUSTOMARY. HE AND EMBASSY STAFF WILL MEET YOU AT AIRPORT AND FACILITATE PASSAGE THROUGH CONTROLS AND RETRIEVAL OF BAGGAGE.

2. DESPITE PROTOCOL'S ASSURANCES, PRESS IS OFTEN PRESENT AT AIRPORT, AND CONCEIVABLY YOU MAY BE APPROACHED FOR STATEMENT. SUGGESTED TEXT OF BRIEF REMARKS FOR THIS CONTINGENCY FOLLOWS SEPTTEL.

3. SINCE AMB. RAWLS' ARRIVAL, GOT HAS SIMPLIFIED PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS CEREMONY, AND FORMAL REMARKS ARE NOT NOW EXCHANGED. SCENARIO AS OUTLINED BY MFA PROTOCOL OFFICER FOLLOWS:

A. PROTOCOL OFFICER--CHIEF OF PROTOCOL FROM PRESIDENCY UNLESS SEVERAL AMBASSADORS ARE SCHEDULED IN SEQUENCE--GOES TO AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE AND ACCOMPANIES AMB. TO PRESIDENCY.

B) ON ARRIVAL AMBASSADOR REVIEWS HONOR GUARD WITH CHIEF OF PROTOCOL AND STANDS AT ATTENTION THROUGH RENDERING OF NATIONAL ANTHEMS.

C) PROTOCOL OFFICER LEADS AMBASSADOR TO PRESIDENT'S OFFICE WHERE LETTERS ARE PRESENTED.

D) THIS FOLLOWED BY INTRODUCTION OF AMBASSADOR TO PRESIDENT'S ENTOURAGE (USUALLY FORMIN AND PERHAPS ONE OR TWO
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OTHER MINISTERS PLUS DIRECTOR OF PRESIDENT'S CABINET LACLE)

AND INTRODUCTION OF AMBASSADOR'S CLOSEST COLLABORATORS TO
PRESIDENT.

E) PRESIDENT THEN INVITES AMBASSADOR FOR INFORMAL
CONVERSATION. SOMETIMES HE INVITES FOREIGN MINISTER OR SOMEONE
ELSE TO SIT IN. REST OF PARTICIPANTS RETIRE; IT IS NOT CLEAR
WHETHER TO OTHER END OF PRESIDENT'S OFFICE OR TO ANTECHAMBER.

F) ON LEAVING PRESIDENT'S OFFICE AFTER INFORMAL CONVERSATION,
AMBASSADOR IS NORMALLY REQUESTED BY PRESS AND TV TO MAKE A BRIEF
STATEMENT. (EMBASSY SUGGESTED TEXT WILL BE SENT SEPTTEL.)
DRESS IS DARK SUIT.

4. DUE INEXPERIENCE OF ACTING MFA PROTOCOL CHIEF, CHARGE IS
CHECKING SOME DETAILS OF ABOVE SCENARIO, BUT CONFIDENT IT
OUTLINES MAJOR ELEMENTS OF ECEREMONY CORRECTLY.
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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CREDENTIALS PRESENTATION, AMBASSADORS
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Draft Date: 29 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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TAGS: PDIP, OVIP, TO, US, (PALMER)
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